United Nations UNW/2011/L.1

Executive Board of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

Distr.: Limited
4 January 2011

Original: English

First regular session for 2011
24-26 January 2011
Item 1 of the provisional agenda*
Organizational matters

Provisional agenda, annotations, list of documents and workplan

Note by the Executive Board secretariat

Provisional agenda

1. Organizational matters.
2. Financial, budgetary and administrative matters.
3. Other matters:
   (a) Tentative workplan for the annual session 2011;
   (b) Annual workplan of the Executive Board for 2011.

* UNW/2011/L.1.

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Annotations

Item 1
Organizational matters

Under this item, the Executive Board will adopt the agenda for the first regular session for 2011 and agree on the workplan for the session as presented by the interim Secretary of the Board. The Board may wish to approve the report of its organizational session and the corresponding overview of decisions adopted at the session. A draft report was distributed to members of the Board for their comments; the final report reflects the comments received.

Documentation

Provisional agenda, annotations, documentation and workplan (UNW/2011/L.1)

Report of the organizational session 2010 (UNW/2011/1)

Overview of decisions adopted at the organizational session (UNW/2011/2)

Item 2
Financial, budgetary and administrative matters

Support budget for 2010-2011

Under this item, the Executive Board will have before it the proposals for the use of voluntary resources for the support budget for the biennium 2010-2011. The budget proposals total $75.6 million for 2011, or 15.4 per cent of total projected resources of $479 million in voluntary contributions.

A share of the proposed support budget would fund 160 posts that were previously funded from programmes ($26 million), thereby establishing the basic institutional capacity needed to provide a minimum package of support services in at least 40 countries by the end of 2011. It would also create 95 new posts ($17 million) to provide the capacity required to implement new coordination, gender mainstreaming and accountability functions and to increase the scale of in-country operations in response to demand.

The proposals are driven by General Assembly resolution 64/289 of 2 July 2010 and build on the Secretary-General's comprehensive proposal for UN-Women (A/64/588) and the strategic plans and frameworks of the four United Nations entities that have been merged into UN-Women. The proposed budget aims to provide UN-Women with the necessary capacity to deliver results to meet these mandates and the growing demands for support from programme countries.

The top priority is to strengthen the capacity of UN-Women at the national level. The first step, to be taken immediately after approval of the proposed support budget, will be to complete the transition management process in Headquarters so as to put in place a strong senior management team to lead the strengthening of the capacity of UN-Women at the country level and the finalization and implementation of a new results-oriented strategic plan.

The Executive Board may wish to approve the proposals for the biennial support budget for 2010-2011 as contained in document UNW/2011/3.

The comments of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the proposals for the biennial support budget for 2010-2011 are contained in document UNW/2011/4.

Financial regulations and rules

The Executive Board will also have before it the proposed financial regulations and rules for UN-Women in accordance with paragraph 79 of General Assembly resolution 64/289, in which the Assembly decided that the operational activities of UN-Women "shall have financial regulations and rules similar to those of other operational United Nations funds and programmes, and consistent with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations". In paragraph 79 the Executive Director was requested to present a proposal for financial regulations to the Executive Board for consideration and adoption.

The proposed financial regulations and rules are primarily drawn from the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), with selected financial regulations and rules drawn from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The decision to use the Financial Regulations of UNFPA is based on the similarities between UN-Women and UNFPA in terms of the expected scale and scope of funding and operational activities, as well as the scale and configuration of their presence in programme countries and their reliance on UNDP for a variety of operational support services in programme countries and at Headquarters.

The Financial Regulations and Rules of UNFPA have the added advantage of having been more recently revised to address changes needed to prepare for the implementation of International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS).

The document explains the factors that account for the main differences between the financial regulations and rules of UN-Women and those of UNFPA and UNDP.

The annex to document UNW/2011/5 contains the proposed financial regulations and rules for UN-Women. The addendum (UNW/2011/5/Add.1) provides a comparison of the proposed financial regulations and rules of UN-Women to those of UNDP and UNFPA.

The proposed financial regulations and rules were submitted to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, but were not reviewed prior to the end of the Committee's session.

The Executive Board may wish to review and approve the proposed financial regulations and rules of UN-Women as contained in document UNW/2011/5.

Documentation

Proposals for the use of voluntary resources for the support budget for the biennium 2010-2011 (UNW/2011/3)

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the proposals for the use of voluntary resources for the support budget for the biennium 2010-2011 (UNW/2011/4)

Proposed financial regulations and rules of UN-Women (UNW/2011/5 and Add.1)

Item 3
Other matters

The Board may also wish to approve the tentative workplan for the annual session for 2011 and the annual workplan of the Executive Board for 2011.

Documentation

Tentative workplan for the annual session for 2011

Annual workplan of the Executive Board for 2011

Tentative workplan

Date	*Time*	*Item*	*Subject*
Monday 24 January	10 a.m.-1 p.m.	1	Organizational matters • Adoption of the agenda and workplan for the session (UNW/2011/L.1) • Adoption of the report of the organizational session (UNW/2011/1) Statement by the Executive Director
	3-6 p.m.		(Continuation of discussion of the statement by the Executive Director)
Tuesday 25 January	10 a.m.-1 p.m.	2	Financial, budgetary and administrative matters Statement by the Executive Director • Proposals for the use of voluntary resources for the support budget for the biennium 2010-2011 (UNW/2011/3) • Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (UNW/2011/4) Proposed financial regulations and rules (UNW/2011/5 and Add.1)
	3-6 p.m.	2	Financial, budgetary and administrative matters (continued)
Wednesday 26 January	10 a.m.-1 p.m.		*Informal consultations on draft decisions (if required)*
	3-6 p.m.		*Informal consultations on draft decisions (if required)*
		3	Other matters • Adoption of pending decisions

Date	*Time*	*Item*	*Subject*
		1	Organizational matters • Adoption of the annual workplan of the Executive Board for 2011 • Adoption of the tentative workplan for the annual session for 2011